

**1. Roll Call-** All present

**2. Public Comment**

- Sandy Merchant- BAHA- the Bloomingdale Development Association (BDA) requested a \$150 donation to support the annual Easter Egg Hunt, noting its success in prior years and that Judy Little would again provide the eggs.
- Motion by T. Rankin, supported by T. Dickerson. Roll- Yes. Motion Carried.

**3. January Expenses**

General Fund-\$26,338.05	Major Streets-\$0.00
Sewer Fund-\$6,865.50	Local Streets-\$1,625.00

**4. Approval of current Agenda OR Amendments to the current Agenda**

**Amendments to Agenda**

- Clerk's Report, MDOT Invoice \$31,297.31
- President Report, Change keys to Village Offices
- Motion by G. Simpson, supported by T. Fisher. Roll-Yes. Motion Carried.

**5. Approval of January 20th Regular Meeting Minutes**

- Motion by G. Simpson, supported by B. Strong. Roll-Yes. Motion Carried.

**6. Communication:**

- Van Buren County Commissioner- Report attached.
- Parks and Recreation
  - The Parks & Recreation Committee reviewed its proposed budget, projecting \$20,000 in revenues and \$19,120 in expenditures. No major capital projects are planned; \$4,000 is set aside for playground equipment. Mowing costs are expected to remain near \$8,000, and the committee reported approximately \$12,000 in reserves.

**7. Reports on Village Officials**

- President's Monthly Report
  - Increased pumping due to rain and snowmelt; pumping expected to continue 3-4 weeks to lower pond levels ahead of spring rains.
  - Treatment of excess inflow will begin once levels are reduced.
  - Possible weed treatment under review pending updated permit requirements.
- Clerk/Treasurer Office Keys
  - Change the keys to the Clerk/Treasurer's office to better control access.
  - Motion by J. Crawford, supported by B. Strong. Roll- Yes. Motion Carried.
- Treasurer's Report- Attached.
  - Council discussed placing additional sewer funds into money market accounts to earn interest while maintaining access to funds. Interest rates and liquidity options were briefly reviewed. No action was taken, and the Treasurer will review options and report back.
- Clerk's Report
  - Southwestern Michigan Dust Control- Brine from 12/8/2025-12/29/2025- \$3,500.00
    - Motion by G. Simpson, supported by J. Crawford. Roll-Yes. Motion Carried.
  - Van Buren County Rural Task Force- Application/Zoning/Legal/Public Documentation- \$3,950.00
    - Motion by J. Crawford, supported by G. Simpson. Roll-Yes. Motion Carried.
  - VB County Drain Commission- Municipality At Large Drainage Project Special Assessment- \$1,031.03
    - Motion by B. Strong, supported by R. Empson. Roll-Yes. Motion Carried.

Regular Village Council Meeting Minutes February 17th, 2026  
G. Simpson, T. Rakin, J. Crawford, T. Fisher, B. Strong, T. Dickerson, R. Empson

- MML- Pool Renewal Premium 3/31/2026-3/21/2027-\$13,233.00
  - Motion by J. Crawford, supported by T. Rankin. Roll-Yes. Motion Carried.
- MDOT-N Van Buren Project- \$31,297.31
  - Motion by J. Crawford, supported by G. Simpson. Roll- 6 Yes, 1 No. Motion Carried.
- Grant Oversight
  - It was reported that representatives attended a recent Market One event and had productive discussions, including the potential to pursue additional grant opportunities in the future.
  - Council discussed the annual membership dues required for Market One, noting that participation allows eligibility for grant funding.
- Budget
  - Council amended the budget to add \$150,000 to the Major Streets Fund for completion and restriping of North Van Buren Street. Trustee salaries were discussed and budgeted for a potential increase, with action to occur at a future meeting. The sewer budget was reviewed, including planned lift station cleaning and pump replacements.
  - Motion by T. Dickerson, supported by T. Fisher. Roll-Yes. Motion Carried.
- Parks
  - 1. Haven Park
  - 2. Depot
    - Council discussed the Depot project and the need for EGLE-required soil testing before work can proceed. A \$700 soil test was approved to determine contamination and guide next steps, with concerns noted regarding potential long-term regulatory obligations. It was also reported that bid specifications are being prepared for Depot repairs (plumbing, electrical, drywall, painting, and exterior work), to be advertised publicly.
  - Motion T. Rakin, supported by J. Crawford. Roll-Yes. Motion Carried.
- Sewer- None
- Streets
  - Council discussed sidewalk snow-removal concerns, including enforcement challenges, safety issues, and snow being pushed onto sidewalks by plowing. Possible future options such as volunteer assistance, sidewalk equipment, and review of the sidewalk ordinance were discussed. No action was taken.
- Ordinance-None

**8. Unfinished Business- None**

**9. New Business-None**

**10. Public Comment (Final Call)**

- Township Supervisor Matthew Ashbrook invited the board to attend the Township meeting Wednesday at 7:00pm.

**11. Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn made by J. Crawford, supported by G. Simpson. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Adjourned at 7:41pm.